

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 97-464-W/S - ORDER NO. 98-236
MARCH 30, 1998

IN RE: Mark W. Erwin, Riverhills,)	ORDER DENYING REQUEST
and other Lake Wylie Consumers,)	TO MOVE HEARING TO
Complainants,)	LAKE WYLIE AREA
)	
vs.)	
)	
Carolina Water Service, Inc.,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") on the request of River Hills Community Association, Inc. ("River Hills Association") to move the hearing scheduled for April 2, 1998, to the Lake Wylie community.

The above-referenced Docket was instituted by the filing of a complaint by the Complainant, Mark W. Erwin, regarding the application of impact fees by the Respondent, Carolina Water Service, Inc. ("CWS"). Thereafter, the Commission combined Mr. Erwin's complaint with the joint complaint of seven organizations which filed a complaint challenging the quality of water and rates charged to those organizations by CWS under a bulk water agreement with York County. The Commission had previously approved the bulk water agreement between York County and CWS.

The River Hills Association requests that the hearing presently scheduled for April 2, 1998, at the Commission's Hearing Room in Columbia, South Carolina be moved to the Lake Wylie community. The River Hills Association states that holding the hearing in the Lake Wylie area will give the residents the best opportunity to provide input into the process and to express their concerns.

By Order No. 98-182, dated March 11, 1998, the Commission denied a request similar to the instant request of the River Hills Association. In denying the previous request, the Commission noted that a night hearing had been held in the Lake Wylie community on February 16, 1998. The purpose of the night hearing was to provide a convenient forum to the customers of Carolina Water Service, Inc. ("CWS") to voice their concerns and comments regarding the issues in the instant Docket. The hearing scheduled for April 2, 1998, is a continuation of the proceedings which started with the night hearing held on February 16, 1998.


The Commission does not believe that the hearing presently scheduled for Columbia, South Carolina on April 2, 1998 should be moved to the Lake Wylie community. The parties to this Docket have been noticed that the April 2, 1998 portion of the instant proceeding will take place in the Commission's hearing room in Columbia, South Carolina. While the Commission has held evening hearings in locations away from the Commission for the convenience of customers to express their views and comments, the Commission previously has not held the day hearings in locations away from the Commission. The Commission finds no compelling reason to depart from this

practice. Therefore, the Commission denies the request of the River Hills Association to move the April 2, 1998, hearing to the Lake Wylie community.


IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The request of the River Hills Association to move the April 2, 1998, hearing from Columbia, South Carolina to the Lake Wylie community is denied.
2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:



Executive Director

(SEAL)